



**MIGREAT**

ACTIVITY PLAN

2023

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## **Practical info**

Name: Stichting MiGreat

KVK Registration number: 76116549

Address: Marius van Bouwdijk Bastiaansestraat 44, 1054SP Amsterdam

Activities: SBI-code: 94997, overige belangenbehartiging

Activities according to statutes:

- Promoting the human rights of migrants, including refugees.
- Promoting safe migration; providing emergency and development assistance to migrants, including refugees.
- Providing information about migration.

Board members

Liz: chair

Hannah: treasurer

Sofie: secretary

## **Vision**

A world where the place you are born decides the life you will lead is an unjust world. When migration becomes a possibility for people from the global South, it can become an indispensable force in the fight for racial justice and global equality. It can give people the opportunity to increase their income staggeringly, develop new skills and support their communities at home. We work towards a world where migration is not a privilege, but a right.

## **Mission**

MiGreat believes people need to be able to move. Our mission is to challenge the right to exclude and create opportunities for migration, especially from the global South towards the EU. We campaign against the brutal border regime, which is ineffective, harmful and deadly. Alongside campaigning for regular migration opportunities and against violent border policies, we support refugees and migrants transiting towards the EU who are left to fend for themselves.

Borders have become a tool to exclude and segregate based on nationality, skin colour and religion. Predominantly white, rich countries systematically violate human rights in order to keep 'unwanted' people out, or to keep the 'unwanted people' that are in undocumented. Our job is to campaign against the abuses that happen on EU borders, mobilise activists to demand justice and provide meaningful alternatives to anti migration policies.

We have three core goals that are the basis of all our projects and campaigns:

1. Freedom of movement for all;
2. Stop deterrence policies, designed to damage and discourage (prospective) migrants;
3. Solidarity & to people on the move in or on their way to Europe

## Goals

- Provide emergency aid to people in need, both on EU borders – currently in Baltic states and the Balkans, and in Ter Apel, Netherlands. If there is a need and capacity, we may also work in other European countries where people on the move are made dependent on support.
- Advocate for governments to take responsibility for the direct needs of people on the move and to remove obstacles faced by people on the move to become self-reliant. In other words, our aim is to become obsolete as soon as possible.
- Develop and start executing a 2 year campaign in the Netherlands, to advocate for freedom of movement. This campaign will aim at awareness and activation of citizens, but will also target political parties, lobbying for freedom of movement and abolishment of migration restrictions.
- Gain more followers on social media and newsletter, build a bigger movement of active supporters, organise petitions, demonstrate and build stronger connections with like-minded organisations

## Do's & don'ts

MiGreat does not accept any kind of government funding. We also do not work in government facilities such as camps or shelters, to secure our independence. We focus on campaigns benefiting everyone (so not only asylum seekers / other particular groups), we combine aid with activism aiming to make the aid redundant in the long run. Our communication and campaigns prioritise system change and we make sure to prioritise our final goal – freedom of movement for all.

## **Planned projects & campaigns**

### **Direct support at the borders of Europe**

In 2023, we aim to continue to support several organisations in Lithuania ([Sienos Grupe](#)), Poland (Pick Up Mushroom Alliance) and Bosnia ([Kompas 071](#)). We support these organisations with monthly donations, usually between €500 and €1000 a month, that they use for basic necessities such as food, medical care, blankets, firewood, but also for transport, wages etcetera. We support small, independent organisations that do not receive government funding, work outside of official facilities, and have difficulties accessing bigger funds. The full list of criteria can be found [here](#).

We can support organisations on a monthly basis, or on a one-off basis, depending on the needs and preference of the organisation applying. For small, new organisations, monthly support can be great to establish more stable structures. Especially in winter, one-off donations can be helpful to cover big expenses, for example for big supplies of blankets. We can also support organisations with in-kind donations of materials collected in Ter Apel (for more on that see below).

Grassroot organisations at the borders of Europe can apply for funds from MiGreat. We also have a budget that can be sent to local groups in case of emergencies such as extreme cold or large influxes.

For 2023 we plan to continue supporting the following organisations:

#### **Lithuania:**

Sienos Grupe – a small grassroots organisation organising vital support for people on the move stuck in the woods in the border region. They also organise protests, advocate and support people in detention centres or in asylum procedures.

#### **Bosnia:**

Kompas 071 is a local community centre in Sarajevo where people can wash their clothes, have tea, take language classes and get clothes, hygiene items and other essentials in the free shop.

## **Support in Ter Apel, Netherlands**

Since August 2022, MiGreat is providing support to people who are left outside at the registration centre for new asylum seekers in Ter Apel, Netherlands. Over summer and autumn, up to 1000 people were forced to wait or sleep outside, sometimes for hours, sometimes for weeks. It is expected that a shortage of beds and political will may lead to a similar situation in 2023.

MiGreat is preparing for a new emergency situation. In collaboration with the people sleeping outside, independent volunteers, collectives, charities and religious institutions, we can provide the following services:

- Coffee & tea
- Warm, healthy food
- Tents, ponchos, tarp
- Sleepings bags, blankets, clothes
- Monitoring

MiGreat currently has 1 staff member working in Ter Apel fulltime to prepare for a new emergency situation. If hundreds of people will sleep outside again, this will not be enough, so 1-2 extra people will be hired temporarily to provide all the above-mentioned services and work day and night.

As we ultimately believe the situation in Ter Apel is caused by government inaction, and lives should not depend on a small independent NGO, we will also hire someone for part time advocacy and campaigning. We will bring out information on the situation in Ter Apel through social media & press releases, speak out in op-eds and in traditional media, and organise protests and petitions to increase pressure on the government authorities to arrange sufficient shelter and to provide emergency support for those left outside. Strategic litigation will also be taken into consideration.

To make all of the above happen, we will apply for funds from various organisations and do call-outs for private donations. Of course, the amount of money needed will depend on the severity of the crisis, the amount of people made homeless, and the (in)action of other organisations and authorities. Apart from financial donations, we will do a call out to collect emergency items and bring them to Ter Apel. These items can also be sent to EU border areas if they are more needed there.

## Campaigns

In 2023, we aim to focus primarily on the Netherlands, both on internal issues (such as Ter Apel, exclusion of undocumented people) and the responsibility the Netherlands has within the EU for border violence and oppressive migration policies.

All of the campaigns mentioned below will be dependent on the funds we manage to get and the capacity of staff and volunteers of MiGreat. The following campaigns are planned for 2023:

- Freedom of movement: we are currently developing a long-term campaign, to advocate for freedom of movement, and thus against the many forms of oppression and exclusion faced by people on the move, while travelling to and once inside the EU. As there are EU parliament elections in 2024 and Dutch parliament elections in 2025, we aim to build a coalition of activists aligned to various parties to shift the attitudes of political parties toward freedom of movement. We will organise large scale demonstrations, petitions and attention-drawing actions, but will also hold debates on a smaller scale to inform people of the situation on EU borders and what can be done about it.
- Work campaign: we are currently developing a campaign on regularisation and access to labour in the Netherlands for asylum seekers and undocumented people. Regularisation options other than asylum are scarce in the Netherlands, and access to work is severely limited. At the same time, there is a large labour shortage and a greying population. Although the parliamentary majority is very much against migration, this may create some momentum for improving the access to work and options for regularisation. We aim to build a coalition with organisations of undocumented people and develop a campaign together.
- Ter Apel: if a new emergency situation develops, we will speak out loudly. The authorities need to take responsibility and make sure people are safe and healthy. We will demonstrate, write op-eds, publish on social media, perhaps sue the authorities to make sure that they take responsibility.
- Empowerment of asylum seekers: a lot of people currently living in the Netherlands as asylum seekers reach out to us with issues such as long



waiting times, no right to work and bad living conditions in the camps. We aim to support people who want to take action, such as demonstrations, put them in touch with journalists and politicians, and/or assist them to file complaints or start law suits.

## **Communication**

In 2023, we want to:

- Create a new website with a Dutch and English version
- Increase followers & reach on our existing social media accounts
- Open a TikTok account
- Publish on average 2 times a week on social media accounts, with messages that are adjusted to the platform
- Increase subscribers to our newsletter and whatsapp groups, to reduce reliance on social media
- Publish op-eds in newspapers
- Get media coverage on our work, both aid & campaigns

To do this, we want to expand our volunteer communication team. We now have a team of 4 volunteers doing social media and articles. This should grow to a team with 4-6 people doing social media, 2-3 people writing op-eds, blogs and press releases, 1 person keeping the website up to date and 1 person doing coordination.

## **Staff**

Due to the intense involvement of MiGreat in Ter Apel in 2022, we have acquired staff. For 2023 we want to remain working with a small number of staff and increase our volunteer base with long-term invested volunteers. Also, we will work with several interns. The amount of staff we have at the beginning of the year is 2 fulltime positions. Depending on how many funds we get and for which projects, we can expand our staff temporarily or more permanently. All of our staff receives the same remuneration: 2500 euros gross / month for a full time workweek, 90 euros / month volunteer stipend for volunteers and interns working one day a week and 180 euros / month for volunteers and interns who work on average 16 hours / week or more.

We have a committed team of around 15 volunteers who are active for MiGreat on a weekly basis. We will focus on creating working groups for the various projects and tasks we have, and publish openings whenever we need new volunteers for the working groups. The aim is to have around 30 people working voluntarily on a weekly / regular basis for MiGreat, in order to be able to do all the campaigns, aid and communications.

## Financial plan

<b>INCOME PROJECTED</b>		<b>EXPENSES PROJECTED</b>	
<b>Remaining funds 2022</b>	<b>€220,000.00</b>	<b>Aid on EU borders</b>	<b>€41,800.00</b>
		Kompass 071	€3,500.00
		Sienos Grup	€10,600.00
		Mushroom alliance	€3,500.00
		MVI Serbia	€4,200.00
		Emergency fund	€10,000.00
		New applications	€10,000.00
<b>Funds Ter Apel</b>	<b>€25,000.00</b>	<b>Aid Ter Apel</b>	<b>€116,000.00</b>
KNR PIN (projected)	€25,000.00	Personnel + volunteers	€50,000.00
		Aid materials	€50,000.00
		Transport	€10,000.00
		Rent volunteer house, storage	€6,000.00
<b>Funds campaigns</b>	<b>€50,000.00</b>	<b>Campaign &amp; communication</b>	<b>€97,500.00</b>
(projected)		Personnel	€67,500.00
		Campaign materials	€20,000.00
		Transport	€5,000.00
		New website	€2,500.00
		Communication tools	€2,500.00
<b>One-off donations</b>	<b>€100,000.00</b>	<b>Running costs</b>	<b>€11,000.00</b>
(projected)		Bank	€3,000.00
		Accountant	€6,000.00
		Office	€2,000.00

		<b>Buffer</b>	<b>€100,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€395,000.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>€366,300.00</b>
		Remaining	€28,700.00

## Contact

Please get in touch with us for any questions regarding MiGreat on [info@migreat.org](mailto:info@migreat.org). Thanks!